Cuba/Argentina

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COUNTRY SUBJECT

Confidential Prospective Affiliation of Argentine and Cuban Labor Groups with the CIT

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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Certain specific questions were asked of the source the prospective affiliation of Argentine and Cuban labor groups with the CIT. The following are the questions and answers:

- 1. QUESTICI: Is it true that the Confederación de Trabajadores de Cuba (CTC) is still an adherent of the Confederación de Trabajadores de America Latina (CTAL)? Did not the CTC formally separate from the CTAL several months ago?
- The CTC no longer mentions the CTAL and it is quite probable that during the VI National Norkers' Congress, due to be celebrated early in 1949, the CTC will definitely affiliate with the Confederación Interamericana de Trabajadores (CIT). Eusebio Mujals, Fresident of the Comisión Obrera Macional (CON) of the Partido Republicano Cubano (Auténtico), and ideological enemy of Cofino, has spoken as though withdrawal from the CTAL had already been effected although actually it has not. Angel Cofiño, Secretary General of the anti-Communist CTC, has looked with some disfavor upon the creation of another intercontinental Latin American group and has felt that the CTC might better remain within the CTAL and use its influence to infiltrate and take over that organization just as the anti-Communist CTC group in Cuba succeeded in ousting the Communist CTC.
- QUESTION: Has not the CTC already ratified the action of its delegation in Lina, Peru, and approved its formal entry into the CIT?
- 4. AUSTER: The local CTC has not reached a perfect understanding with the CIT and, as noted above, awaits the VI Workers' Congress. Cofino and his comrades of the Comité Obrero Nacional Independiente (CONI) were not in agreement with participation in the Lima Congress and are still less in agreement since Eusebio Mujals was named organizational secretary of that group.
- 5. The Cuban CPC has not formally ratified the action of its delegation at Peru, although Mujals has frequently spoken, as head of CON, as though this has taken place. The steps taken at the Lima meeting were not discussed previously with Cofino, who allegedly resents Enjals' position since Enjals does not belong to the CTC, and is not a worker himself but rather a political opportunist. There will be no ratification of the entrance into CIT before the VI Workers' Congress.

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- 6. QUESTION: Have there not been public denials of any interviews between CIT leaders and César Tronconi, Labor Attaché in the Argentine Embassy, Havana, looking toward affiliation of an Argentine workers group with the CIT?
- 7. ANSWER: It can be stated with certainty that such meetings were held.
 Tronconi's derial does not signify that there were no such meetings. It is well known in such international questions that one denies things which it is not convenient to divulge. It may be that Argentina, which has other plans, does not care to have its possible entrence into the CIT known.
 There were informal meetings.
- 8. QUESTION: Is it not true that Argentina, rather than coming closer to the CIT, seems to move away from it?
- 9. ANSWER: It is not believed there have been any real changes. It is likely that in the second congress of the CIT the Confederación Gereral de Trabajadores of Argentina (CGT), who have already been invited, will attend and will come to some agreement. It is, of course, possible that the CGT may go either way. President Perón would have little interest in seeing the CGT affiliate with the CIT, which would imply guidance from Jashington and the American Federation of Labor (AFL).
- 10. Peron would be much happier through the creation of a third intercontinental workers group outside the CTAL and the CIT, but, even in connection with this third group, he would no doubt like to follow a lead of other countries who would ask Argentina to form such an organization.
- 11. It was reported several months ago that Perón invited labor leaders to Argentina and tried to foist a new organization upon them at that time. It is certain that Argentina is now smending a great deal of money to resolve its international labor problems. If Argentina suffers other defeats in its attempt to see a third organization created, it can:
 - Maintain close liaison with the CIT while it continues to exert efforts to create a third group;
 - Seriously consider entrance into CIT should the third front continue to have no success;
 - c. Join the CIT and endeavor to destroy the influence of the AFL by a slow, gradual, taking over of power.
- 12. These possibilities explain Argentina's interest both in possible entrance into the CIT and in holding informal interviews with labor leaders throughout Latin America. Argentina can not remain isolated and will soon have to go one way or the other.

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